bank robbories/dacoities/looting of remittances have taken placs in *the country* during the period from 1-7-89 to 31-12-89- In these incidents a total amount of Rs. 84.90 lakhs is reported to bo involved besides some gold ornaments.

(b) As par information furnished by the RBI, 11 incidents of bank robbsrics/dacoitics have taken plac.; in the Stat*i* of Punjab during the period from 1-7-89 to 31-12-89 in volving a total amount of Rs. 13.92 lakhs.

(c) Bank robberies/dacoitics to a considerable extent depend on the general security environment in the locality. Banks, however, have been taking steps to improve their security arrangements so as to offer as little scope as possible to mis creants to rob banks and also to deter them. As this is a continuous process, security measures imple mented by public sector banks are Doing reviewed from time to time and whenever further improvements arc considered necessary, requisite guidelines/instructions are givon to the Danks. Depending on the risk-factor involved, steps have been taken to appoint security guards, instal appropriate alarm systems, etc. in branches. Further, in order to motivate bank employees, the general public and the police to resist rob-b.rs/dacoits, a scheme for giving rewards and compensation is in operation.

.

In the State of Punjab, special efforts have been made to strengthen banks security by deploying para-military forces both *tor* sta'ic guard as well as for escort of cash remittances. Besides linkage of bank blanches with currency chests have bacn rationalised. The security problems ire also being reviewed in pcriodi- , ?al meetings of State Level Security 3ommitt':e.

Promotion of Tourism

348. SHRI NARESH C. PUG-LIA: Will the Minister of TOU-RISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are Government's plans with regard to promotion of tourism in the country;

(b) what special efforts have been tirade to attract tourists from abroad in the recent past;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop the infrastructural facili-ties at all places of tourist interest; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COM-MERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU); (a) to (d) The Government is making every effort to promote tourism in the country. Efforts in this direction are being made by developing infra-structure and by marketing and publicity campaigns. The develop-ment of infrastructure is the res-ponsibility both of the Central and State Governments. The Central Government are giving liberal con-cessions for setting up of additional accommodation units. Tourism Finance Corporation of India has also b.ecn set up to finance tourism related projects. With/n their sche-me, and subject to availability of funds, the Ministry would continue to render' financial assistance for development of infrastructure.

Economy in expenditure in Central Government Departments

349. SHRI NARESH C. PUG-LIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to effect economy in ex-